

U.S. Embassy Bahrain
Demonstration Notice 42 – July 17, 2013

Thursday, July 18, 2013, through the evening hours, a violent opposition group has called for demonstrations, sit-ins and related civil disobedience acts by residents living along Sh. Salman Road (Furniture Road). Expect road closures with tire burnings, oil on streets, the use of hoax or real IEDs, and clashes with police. We highly recommend that you avoid travel to this area (Yellow Oval).

Friday, July 19, 2013 and Saturday, July 20, 2013, throughout the day and in particular at night, a violent opposition group has called for acts of civil disobedience to take place throughout the country in support of martyrs. It is likely that these acts will take place within the off limits areas. Exercise a higher degree of caution when traveling during this weekend. Plan alternative routes and expect delays.

Friday, August 2, 2013, will likely be announced as Quds Day or Jerusalem Day. Expect protests and demonstrations that will largely be peaceful in their support and recognition of the day. Some demonstrations will not be authorized and will represent anti-US and Israeli sentiment. Flag burnings, demonstrations and related acts are more likely during this day. Travel after noon (12:00p.m.) through the remainder of the day is not recommended.

Wednesday, August 14, 2013, has been announced by certain opposition groups as the, “Tamarud” or rebellion. The Ministry of Interior has publicly addressed such calls for a rebellion. There are no authorized demonstrations associated with the call for Tamarud. It is likely that the days before and after August 14th will see an increase in unauthorized demonstrations, acts of civil disobedience such as the blocking of roads with homemade tire spikes, construction debris, furniture, burning tires, oil, and clashes with police.

Violent opposition groups have increased their civil disobedience acts during the past week. The Embassy notes that these acts largely remain in areas off limits to Embassy personnel. However, there have been acts that have taken place in authorized village areas, feeder road networks, and on major road infrastructures such as the causeway and highways. The Budaiya Highway has seen increased activity this last week. Be aware of your surrounding at all times. The indiscriminate use of homemade weapons such as IEDs, projectile devices, and Molotov cocktails remains a concern. The police remain the primary target, although there have been incidents where civilians were struck with Molotov cocktails while driving because they were near police forces as they came under attack on a road network.

Spontaneous demonstrations take place in Bahrain from time to time in response to world events or local developments. United States citizens should keep current with media coverage of local events and be aware of their surroundings at all times. If you encounter a large public gathering or demonstration, depart the vicinity immediately.

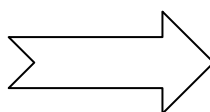
It is important to note that there have been no direct attacks on U.S. citizens in Bahrain to date. That said, spontaneous and at times violent anti-government demonstrations occur in some neighborhoods, particularly at night and on weekends. These demonstrations have included blockades of major highways with burning debris and establishment of unofficial checkpoints. Participants have thrown rocks and Molotov cocktails and used various other homemade weapons, including isolated use of improvised explosive devices. The Ministry of Interior maintains official checkpoints in some areas and routinely uses tear gas and stun grenades along with birdshot and other crowd control measures against demonstrators. Violent clashes between security forces and demonstrators can make travel in and around Bahrain dangerous without advance warning.

Please see below for a map. Areas shaded in red are off-limits to U.S. Citizen Embassy employees and their family members at all times. U.S. Citizen Embassy employees and their family members are permitted to travel in the areas shaded in yellow during daylight hours only.

We remind U.S. citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. U.S. citizens are therefore urged to avoid the areas of demonstrations if possible, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet website at <http://travel.state.gov>, where the current Worldwide Caution, Country Specific Information for Bahrain, Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts can be found. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

The U.S. Embassy in Manama can be reached at (973) 1724-2700; the afterhours emergency number is (973) 1724-2957; the fax number is (973) 1725-6242. The [Embassy's web site](http://bahrain.usembassy.gov), <http://bahrain.usembassy.gov>, includes travel information and the Worldwide Caution and Demonstration Notices. All U.S. citizens are encouraged to enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program. The Consular Section can be reached at ManamaConsular@state.gov.



BAHRAIN: OFF-LIMITS AREAS

